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Boundaries of Literature
Edward Said and other scholars reflect on literature and globalization at the Macalester International Roundtable
THE POLICY of Macalester Today is to publish as many letters as possible from alumni, the primary audience of this magazine, as well as other members of the Macalester community. Exceptions are letters that personally malign an individual or are not related to issues at Macalester or contents of the magazine. Please send letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. You can also send your letter by fax: (612) 696-6192. Or by e-mail: mactoday@macalstr.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Animal research

THE ARTICLE on "The Psychology of Addiction" in the August issue of Macalester Today detailed the worst of the animal research on college campuses, and the connection of Macalester with University of Minnesota researcher Marilyn Carroll is shameful. Attempting to "cure" drug addiction using animal studies is misguided.

Over the past 15 years, including two years as assistant professor of psychology at Macalester from 1976 to 1978, Marilyn Carroll has used millions of dollars of federal grant money "training" rhesus monkeys to self-administer drugs of abuse like PCP, cocaine, alcohol and caffeine.

Animal suffering is no replacement for human suffering. Whether the subject is a rat or mouse at Macalester, or a rhesus monkey at the University of Minnesota, subjecting an animal to the tortures of addiction and withdrawal is unacceptable, and a sad waste when we have proven treatment programs that can help humans now.

The number of animals used at Macalester continues to increase. Alumni need to speak out against this abuse.

Nicolas Atwood '95
Vice President
Animal Rights Coalition, Inc.
Bloomington, Minn.

Macalester Professor Lynda LaBounty and Marilyn Carroll of the University of Minnesota reply: Most of us who do research in the area of drug abuse look at it as a medical condition. Just as in the cases of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and other medical conditions, animal models are invaluable in the development of new and improved treatments. As with those diseases, we have much to learn. Treatment success rates have not dramatically improved over the years in any of these areas because the nature of the illnesses continues to become more varied and complex, and environmental factors, which are difficult to control, play an increasingly important role in the causes of the diseases. Standard current treatments for drug abuse are not highly effective, with only about 20 percent of those treated remaining drug free for a year. However, progress is being made.

We have learned many important lessons from animal research that are contributing to better treatment success rates. For instance, one of the most effective cocaine treatment programs, based on the community reinforcement approach, rewards drug abstinence with opportunities to seek other non-drug rewards in the community. This approach was founded on animal research that demonstrated that environments enriched with alternative non-drug rewards were highly effective in preventing and reducing drug use. Also, animal models of acquisition have provided us with information about vulnerability to drug abuse. For instance, dieting and caffeine use contribute to more rapid initiation of cocaine use, while alternative non-drug reinforcers prevent acquisition of drug abuse.

Research of this kind cannot be done on humans. Thus, animal models are essential to the continued development of effective prevention and treatment strategies for drug abuse. A built-in safeguard is that all student and faculty research using animals must be reviewed and approved by an animal research committee to assure that current legal and ethical standards of care and treatment will be met.

Union rules require rest breaks

Roommates Tom Patras '98 (Iron, Minn.), left, and Mike Moore '98 (Williams Bay, Wis.) stopped for a breather on their couch as they moved it into Turek Hall last fall.
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On the cover
Edward Said, the eminent scholar and influential writer, was photographed by Greg Helgeson before he gave the keynote address at the second Macalester International Roundtable. For more on this "intellectual festival," turn to page 16.
Presidential search draws on rich pool

MACALESTER'S 15TH president will be chosen from an "extraordinarily rich" pool of candidates, says the chair of the presidential search committee.

"It is truly exciting for the committee to see the interest and enthusiasm for Macalester reflected in the wealth of talent, scholarship and leadership that has been presented for consideration," Janet Rajala Nelson '72, who is also a Macalester trustee, told students, faculty and staff in December.

"Our candidates include many senior-level administrators of other fine institutions, renowned scholars, and distinguished leaders in liberal arts and social advancement," Nelson said in a written statement. "As we know ourselves, this is an exciting moment in Macalester's history, and it is gratifying to have such a high-quality response to our search."

Nelson said the search committee and its consultant, John W. Chandler, a former president of Williams College and Hamilton College, have actively sought out "potential candidates who might not otherwise have been thinking of a change in career."

She reiterated the importance of confidentiality in the committee's deliberations. Unlike the search for a provost or dean, "it is unlikely there will be open forums on campus to meet the finalists," Nelson said. "It is possible that our finalists might participate in small group meetings on a limited and private basis. But we will not know about that until we have identified the finalists and can assess their unique circumstances."

The 11-member search committee is charged with conducting a search that will produce a short list of individuals, any one of whom would be an excellent president for Macalester. These individuals will then be reviewed by the Board of Trustees, which will make the final choice.

President Gavin, who became president in 1984, announced last May that he will step down at the end of the current academic year. His successor is expected to be announced by then.

Track of champions

President Gavin was one of the speakers at the Oct. 7 dedication of Macalester's new track and athletic field complex. Rated one of the best in the nation, the track features nine 48-inch lanes and wide European-style turns. The NCAA has chosen Macalester to host the 1998 men's and women's NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The complex is the centerpiece of the improved athletic facilities, which include a new baseball-intramural field and tennis courts.

Language requirement

THE FACULTY has voted to strengthen Macalester's second-language requirement for graduation.

Beginning with the class entering in the fall of 1997, Macalester will require proficiency in a second language — other than the student's native tongue — equivalent to four semesters of college study. At present, the college requires proficiency equivalent to two semesters.

The new requirement, like the current one, may be satisfied by examination.

The rationale given for strengthening the language requirement said, in part: "The current one-year Macalester requirement does not provide the linguistic and cultural competency that should characterize liberal arts college graduates and should be expected, in particular, at an institution stressing internationalism. While a four-semester requirement cannot guarantee fluency, especially in the more difficult languages, students are generally able after two years of study to negotiate the target culture when they study abroad."

The faculty vote was 62 to 33 in favor of the change.

Only 4 percent of incoming students do not meet the present requirement. Registrar Dan Balik compiled statistics which suggest that the college would need to staff a few new language sections. If the presence of a stronger language requirement had no effect on the linguistic preparation of students admitted, Macalester would need to accommodate 100 students over the present capacity, requiring one full-time or two part-time faculty members.

Ellis Dye, professor of German at Macalester and a longtime proponent of strengthening the language requirement, said he was "very pleased that the faculty has taken this step to make Macalester's commitment to internationalism and diversity more meaningful, and to improve the educational program for all Macalester students."

Dye said that based on current enrollments in language courses, more students would satisfy the new requirement with Spanish than with any other language. Last fall, for example, 300 students were enrolled in Spanish-language courses, followed by 120 in German, 110 in French (which usually has the second-largest enrollment), 75 in Russian and 52 in Japanese.
History prize

In his senior year at Macalester, Alex Hortis '95 spent many hours doing research in the Serbian Hall in South St. Paul, the Minnesota Historical Society and three other historical archives.

His resulting honors thesis, "Americanizing Packtown," is a social history of South St. Paul packinghouse workers from 1900 to 1948. His paper tells how the process of Americanization for Serbians, Croatians, Poles and other ethnic groups in the immigrant community was directly linked to the experience of packinghouse work.

Hortis' thesis won a national competition for the best undergraduate paper in American labor history. He received the Barbara Wertheimer Award for Undergraduate Labor History on Dec. 9 at a meeting of the New York Labor History Association, an organization of labor historians and labor activists in the New York City area. The competition is judged by the history faculty at City University of New York. Hortis' adviser at Macalester was Professor Peter Rachleff, a labor historian.

Hortis, who is from Clearwater, Minn., majored in history and political science at Macalester. He is currently working for the Blum-Kovler Foundation in Washington, D.C., which is planning a series of national events in honor of Franklin D. Roosevelt in October 1996. Hortis plans to enroll in law school next fall.

Model behavior

Macalester's delegation placed third among 65 schools across the United States and Canada at one of the largest fall Model United Nations conferences in the world.

The Macalester group beat out Cornell, Harvard and perennial powerhouse George Washington University at the conference, which was held in November at the University of Pennsylvania.

Macalester represented both Jordan and Iran. Of the college's 12 delegates, six received individual commendations from the conference. MacMUN President Toby Heytens '97 (Superior, Wis.) and Bret Kramer '96 (Canton, Ohio) jointly received an award for the best delegation in their committee. Commendations also went to Sarah Puno '99 (St. Louis), George Ramsden '99 (London, England), Kathryn Gates '98 (Billings, Mont.) and Greg Renden '99 (Auburn, Alabama). Jennifer Wikstrom '98 (Missoula, Mont.) was awarded a verbal commendation.

Six other delegates participated in the conference for the Macalester squad: Sarah Sawtelle '96 (Burke, Vt.), Mans Larson '99 (Lund, Sweden), Frederick Swankler '99 (Selbhi-Phukwe, Botswana), Tom Wales '99 (Seattle, Wash.) and Tracy Powell '99 (Louisville, Ohio).

Model United Nations, an international organization, holds conferences at the collegiate and high school levels. Teams are judged on knowledge of their assigned countries' policies, how well those policies are represented and knowledge of the rules of the conference.

U.N. convocation

For a free transcript of remarks at last September's convocation celebrating the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, please send a postcard with your name and address to: College Relations Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105

Rhodes Scholar

Abigail Noble '96, an English major from New Haven, Ind., who graduates this May, is Macalester's newest Rhodes Scholar and the college's seventh since 1967.

She was one of 32 American Rhodes Scholars chosen from colleges and universities throughout the country.

Noble, who has a special interest in Victorian literature and wants to teach at the university level, will receive a full scholarship to study English literature for two years at Oxford University in England. She was featured on the cover of November's Macalester Today. The issue included an excerpt from an essay she wrote last year in which she described her experiences at Macalester.

"She's been a joy to work with," English Professor Robert Warde, who encouraged her to apply for the Rhodes, told the Minneapolis Star Tribune. He said that "more than other scholarships, the Rhodes looks at the whole person. And Abigail is very impressive that way."

The Rhodes Scholarship program was established in 1903 to provide outstanding students with opportunities for an international education. The criteria for selection include high academic achievement, integrity, unselfishness, respect for others, leadership and physical vigor.

Macalester's first Rhodes Scholar was Benjamin Wallace in 1904. He was the son of then-Macalester President James Wallace and the brother of Reader Digest founder DeWitt Wallace '11. Macalester's other Rhodes Scholars are:

- Michael Fredrickson '67, now an attorney in Boston; he studied medieval literature at Oxford on the Rhodes.
- James Braden '72, now a lawyer in San Francisco, whose field at Oxford was the human sciences.
Choir invited to Poland

The Macalester Concert Choir has been invited to participate in one of Poland's most prestigious national choral festivals May 23-25.

The Legnica Cantat Festival is one of the principal musical events that Polish conductors attend to keep abreast of literature, techniques and styles. As a focal point of the festival, Macalester Professor Robert L. Morris and the Concert Choir will provide a series of lectures and presentations on African-American choral music, traditions and styles.

Morris, who is conductor of the Concert Choir, was originally invited to give lectures and seminars on African-American choral music. When he suggested that having an American choir to demonstrate would illuminate the points made in the lectures, the Legnica Cantat organizers quickly welcomed the idea.

Morris, who is in his fourth year at Macalester, and the Concert Choir have been asked to repeat their musical contributions in a similar festival May 27-29 in Szczecin, Poland. After that festival, the choir will tour, travel and perform in Berlin, Leipzig, Nuremberg, Munich and Rothenburg, Germany.

Although the group will receive assistance with meals and lodging once it arrives in Poland, the cost of the air fare, land transportation and services still need to be covered by the 30 students. Alumni and friends who wish to support the Choir may send contributions to:

Macalester College
Music Department
1600 Grand Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105-1899

All donations will be acknowledged in the concert tour program.

An associates group is being formed. Alumni and friends who join this group will not sing but will travel to Europe with the Choir. If enough people apply, the associates group will have its own schedule of activities separate from the choir.

For more information about donations or the associates group, call the choir office at (612) 696-6520.

Two appointments

The College has made two key appointments, naming Tom Wick director of development and Jennifer Patti '91 the new associate alumni director.

Wick will help lead the college's fundraising efforts and will oversee various office functions including major gifts, planned giving, the annual fund, corporate and foundation relations and advancement services. He reports to Richard Ammons, vice president for development.

Wick, 33, was most recently director of development at Lake Forest College, near Chicago, where he helped lead completion of a $40 million capital campaign. He also

Justin Mansfield's passion for Latin

For students of Latin and Greek, translating Cicero and Thucydides is par for the course.

But Justin Mansfield '96 (Minneapolis) has tackled less traditional subjects. He has done Latin translations of "Phantom of the Opera," the popular song "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen and the theme song of the TV cartoon show "Animaniacs."

His senior honors thesis is entitled "Limes Ultimus," which means "The Final Frontier." Intended as a reader or companion to a textbook for students of Latin, it is based on episodes from the TV series "Star Trek: The Next Generation" instead of classical sources.

Mansfield's prowess at Latin and Greek won him the top prize in two categories and second prize in a third category in a national translation contest sponsored by Eta Sigma Phi, a classics honor society, last year.

"I like living languages, too, but I can find those anywhere," Mansfield says.

Although he took a rudimentary Latin course in junior high and a five-week Latin course at the Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth, a summer program held at

"I like living languages, too, but I can find those anywhere."

Macalester, Mansfield largely taught himself the language; he had no Latin teacher in high school. He scored a perfect 800 on the Latin achievement test before enrolling at Macalester, where he began taking Greek as a freshman.

Majoring in classical languages with a core in linguistics, Mansfield plans to go on to graduate school and hopes to become a classics professor, partly so he can satisfy his passion for Latin.

"For one thing, it's a cool language in and of itself," he says. "For another, when I started seeing translations of modern things into a dead language, for some reason that struck me as just neat. And third — of course, I have to have an altruistic purpose as well — most people nowadays just aren't that into Latin, and it's a shame, because it's really useful. I didn't understand anything about [English] grammar until I took Latin. Then, trying to figure out how Latin grammar worked, it all suddenly made sense."
Writers who read

In the space of one week last fall, three notable writers drew capacity crowds to Macalester's Cochran Lounge for readings sponsored by the college and the Hungry Mind Bookstore.

Norman Mailer, left, read from his biography of Picasso; former PBS co-anchor Robert MacNeil, right, read from his novel *The Voyage*; and John Updike discussed his chronicle of the life of *Rabbit Angstrom*, now collected in one volume. Macalester Professor Susan Allen Toth also drew a large and appreciative audience to the same location Nov. 11 for an alumni event (see page 28).

Jennifer Patti '91

Ramsey Junior High School in St. Paul and, since 1993, for the Illusion Theater in Minneapolis.

She began her work at the Illusion Theater in Minneapolis. She began her work at the Illusion by advising communities on how to establish programs against violence and sexual abuse, and went on to become the theater's education program director, heading a national licensing program of educational plays.

She has also been an active Macalester volunteer.

"We are excited to welcome a Macalester alumna back to the college as associate alumni director," said Alumni Director Karen McConkey. "The search committee was particularly impressed with Jen's energy and talent for working with volunteers. At the Illusion Theater, Jen has been really creative in adapting educational programs to diverse audiences, with great success."

Patti is married to another Macalester graduate, Pat Twiss '90 (see page 31).

Fall sports review

Here is a summary of the fall sports season at Macalester:

- Soccer

A spot in the 20-team NCAA Division III playoffs was the reward for an outstanding season for the Macalester women's soccer team. The Scots placed second in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) and finished the regular season with a 12-4-2 mark. Macalester defeated Wisconsin-Stevens Point 1-0 in the first round of the national playoffs before losing a heartbreaking 1-0 overtime decision to conference rival Gustavus in the West Region semifinals.

Jennie Haire (Burnsville, Minn.) finished an outstanding career as the team's top defensive performer and was named MIAC Player of the Year. She always marked the other team's top player, none of whom managed to score a goal against her in league games. Haire and Nikki Epperson (Sandy, Utah) were both named to the All-Conference team. Nikki Epperson's All-Conference certificate was
A gift to Macalester science

Macalester's science faculty and students are making good use of a new freeze dry machine. The freeze dryer was a gift from Macalester trustee Richard Eichhorn '51, right, of Champlin, Minn. He is shown with biology Professors Jan Serie and Russell Whitehead and Allan Anger, left, chief executive officer of the company which makes the machines. Serie says the freeze dryer is very useful in a number of applications. It makes specimen preparation more accessible for students and less expensive for the Biology Department. Serie also uses it in her own research for preparing monoclonal antibodies and polyclonal antisera for storage.

For a while last fall it looked as though Coach Leaneys men's soccer squad would be the Macalester team destined to reach the highest level of success. While the women began the season at 5-3, the men jumped out to an 8-0 start. Macalester went into a tailspin, however, and won just one of its final nine games, finishing 9-4-4. Freshmen Armin Heuberger (Augsburg, Germany) and Larry Griffin (Belleville, Ill.) were the team's top scorers and received All-MIAC honors, along with forward Nick Adams (Elm Grove, Wis.).

A MICAC Player of the Year

Jennie Haire

• Football

Under Coach Tom Bell, the football team began to show signs of improvement after many years of uncompetitive play. It may still take a while before the Scots have a winning team, but the progress made last fall give the team reason for optimism. Macalester broke a 38-game losing streak with a 28-14 victory over Crown College in the season opener and played solid football in many of its conference games despite going winless in MIAC play.

Running back David Young (Omaha, Neb.), wide receiver Kris Lecours (Lebanon, Pa.), defensive tackle Ben Harris (Boulder, Colo.) and All-MIAC linebacker Kawika Alo (Honolulu, Hawaii) were among the top players on the team and will be called on for leadership roles next fall.

• Cross country

Macalester's women's cross country team had three of the best runners in the conference in Jillian Strobel (Eugene, Ore.), Jordan Cushing (Edina, Minn.) and Kendra Johnson (Cazadero, Calif.). Strobel took ninth in the region and qualified for the NCAA national meet, where she placed 74th out of 182 participants. Cushing and Johnson were All-MIAC performers.

Justin Simon (Claremont, Calif.) made his final cross country season his best and was the top runner all fall for the Scots. He placed second in the River Falls and St. Olaf Invitationals and took third in the Carleton Invitational. Simon earned his third All-Conference award and took eighth at the NCAA Central Regionals, just missing a spot in the national meet by one position. Justin's twin brother, Jasper, was the team's No. 2 runner and finished the year with a 16th-place regional finish.

• Volleyball

Volleyball Coach Bob Weiner brought in a large group of first-year players to turn the team's fortunes around and the Scots responded by showing much improvement over the past several seasons. Macalester finished 11-33 on the season and began to lay the foundations for a winning program. Sophomore Kelly Kratzer (McPherson, Kan.) was the team's top all-around performer and will be a big part of the team's improvement down the road, along with first-year players Jennifer Jorgensen (Glen- dale, Wis.), April Peniata (Plymouth, Minn.) and Kim Banks (St. Paul) and sophomore Kathy Spalding (Brandon, Manitoba).

— Andy Johnson
Sisterhood is a kick: Three Eppersons succeed in soccer

First, Epperson scored.
Next, Epperson scored.
And finally, it was Epperson who scored.
That's how it went when three sisters — senior Nikki, sophomore Brook and first-year Tawni — each scored a goal for the Macalester women's soccer team last fall in a game against Bethel. Although it was the only game in which each scored a goal, all three Eppersons distinguished themselves in soccer last fall:

- Nikki (9 goals and 9 assists): Chosen All-America, All-Central Region and All-Conference, she was also picked to play in the Umbro Select College All-Star Soccer Classic March 1-2 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the first college all-star soccer event. Nikki, who is 5-foot-6, is also the starting point guard on the women's basketball team.
- Brook (8 goals and 8 assists): Chosen All-Central Region and All-Conference, 5-foot-7 Brook also plays basketball on the junior varsity.
- Tawni (6 goals and 2 assists): The youngest Epperson is also the tallest, at 5-8. "She gave us a real spark off the bench, something I've never thought of in soccer," says Coach John Leaney. "A few people have seen what she can do, and she definitely has the potential to be a tremendous player. So does Brook." Tawni also plays basketball on the junior varsity.

The sisters are very close. All three play forward in soccer, although Brook moved to halfback when both her sisters were in the game. All three are biology majors. All three intend to go into some form of medicine. They have a younger brother back home in Sandy, Utah, who is not coming to Macalester, the sisters say. Their mother and stepfather, Salli and David Hislop, are both letter carriers.

As athletes, the Eppersons are "tough as nails — they don't back down to anybody on the field," says Leaney. Off the field, "all three of them have worked for me at various times in work-study, so I interact with them a lot. They're just fun. They've always got a smile on their faces, always enjoying themselves," Leaney adds.

"We were a lot more competitive against each other in high school," Nikki says, "and now it's just more fun [playing sports together]. We're more supportive of each other, and that's probably come with the fact that we've matured a lot. But it's been really fun."

"I love it here," says Brook, who shares an apartment with Nikki. "It was a wise decision [to come to Macalester]."

"It's great [playing soccer with her sisters]," says Tawni. "I wish we had at least one more year together. We connect. We play well together, I think."
Mano a Mano, Mac to Mac
Ten alumni volunteers
connect for a cause in Bolivia

by Carolyn Griffith

Macalester alumni gather at the Mendota Heights home of Joan Swanson Velásquez ’63 and her husband, Segundo, which also serves as the office of Mano a Mano Medical Resources. Displayed before them are handcrafted items from Bolivia, which Mano a Mano sold at the Mac Market in December to raise funds for the non-profit organization. From left: Carlos Mariani ’79, Marilyn Vigil ’64, Michael McClure ’63, Mary White ’73, Segundo Velásquez, Joan Swanson Velásquez ’63, Anna Foxen ’91 and Ann White Foxen ’92. Not pictured but also involved in Mano a Mano are Daniel White ’72, Beverly White ’41 and Veronica Kaune ’86, who works for the Health Ministry in Bolivia.
Carolyn Griffith is a St. Paul free-lance writer.

Mac really opened up the world for me; I discovered that not everyone was a Swedish Lutheran.

— JOAN SWANSON VELÁSQUEZ '63

researching foundations and grant opportunities and performing other administrative tasks.

"Here, people say, 'What do you need?'" Foxen comments. "In Latin America, the attitude is, 'Tell me what you have — I'm sure we can use it.'"

When ophthalmic sutures were donated, for example, Combase — which does not offer eye surgery — sent them along with ophthalmic patients and their doctors to clinics that could perform eye surgery. "These are like gold; patients would have to supply their own or bring money for them. Sutures are so expensive in Bolivia," Foxen explains.

With volunteer labor, mostly donated supplies and equipment (including a microscope contributed by Macalester biology Professor Eddie Hill) and free or deeply discounted transportation, Mano a Mano (Spanish for "hand to hand") spent only $4,000 in cash in 1995.

The roots of the idea reach back 10 years, and the motivation, for Velásquez, goes even further back — to her years at Macalester.

"Because Mac has such a strong emphasis on international relations, it really opened up the world for me; I discovered that not everyone was a Swedish Lutheran," says Velásquez, who came to Macalester from a small town in Minnesota and went on to serve in the Peace Corps in Bolivia, where she met her husband. "Mac nurtured my capacity to develop a multicultural view of the world, which has helped me maintain a bicultural marriage," she says.

"There was a focus at Mac on internationalism, and on service," adds Foxen.

The group's efforts grew organically out of the Velásquez's wish to do something for Segundo's native country, and their friends' desire to help. When Joan's Peace Corps stint ended in 1969, the couple came to the Twin Cities; Segundo began working for Northwest Airlines 15 years ago, which enabled them to travel back to Bolivia frequently with donated goods. That Segundo's brother is a doctor gave them a medical focus.

"This organization is really following the Hispanic way of doing things, basing the cause on personal relationships and interdependence," notes Vigil, a Chicana originally from New Mexico. Foxen and White are sisters; their brother, Daniel White '72, and cousin, Beverly White '41, are involved, as well as Foxen's husband and daughter, Anna Foxen '91, and Vigil's former husband, Michael McClure '63. Also involved are Carlos Mariani '79 and Veronica Kaune '86, who works for the Health Ministry in Bolivia. She will receive donations from Mano a Mano for a maternal child health care program which she manages.

"We'd love to have more Mac grads involved," says Velásquez.

Naturally, the group has a "wish list" for both supplies and manpower. Wound care dressings, syringes, gloves, and other supplies for emergency and acute care are always needed. Foxen would like the help of a biotechnician who understands and can evaluate the usefulness of medical instruments.

"And we need more 'medical scroungers,' people who have contacts or work in medical settings or who have used crutches in their attics," Vigil chimes in. Fund raising is an ongoing need; the group sells Bolivian handicrafts at places like the Mac Market, and could use help lining up other sales locations.

Mano a Mano's phone number: (612) 457-3141; fax (612) 450-9933.
At the Center

Macalester’s new Campus Center is intended to draw people and ideas together — and in doing so strengthen a sense of community.
RARELY HAS a new campus building been invested with so many hopes and dreams. Faculty, staff and students who are involved in planning Macalester's Campus Center see it as much more than just another new building. They envision it as:

- the hub of out-of-classroom campus life, housing such essential daily needs as food service;
- the focus of group interaction in the form of meetings, seminars, presentations and informal gatherings;
- an architectural “magnet” or “beacon” that will draw people by plentiful use of glass and natural light, including a skylight at the top of its three levels;
- a key part — but only part — of an overall campus master plan that is intended to help break down geographical and other barriers between classroom and extracurricular activities.

If Old Main (completed in 1887) is the soul of the campus and the DeWitt Wallace Library (opened in 1988) is its brain, then the Campus Center may well become its heart. When its planners talk about the Campus Center, another “c” word always comes up: It is seen as a community center, a building which will be used by everyone on campus as well as visitors.

The Campus Center figures in the college's strategic plan, adopted in May 1992, as a way to
The first floor of the Campus Center will be a social space for the campus community featuring decentralized, kiosk-style dining. The design of the three-level building is intended to emphasize "openness, lightness and flexibility." A central skylight will help illuminate the building.

The Campus Center is intended as "a place to foster an intangible asset," says Joel Clemmer, director of the DeWitt Wallace Library and chair of the Campus Center Planning Committee. "You could say community, or a sense of affiliation which comes from a set of activities which need to be encouraged at Macalester.

"If that sounds fuzzy," Clemmer adds, "we have data that show Macalester students do not congregate among themselves or with faculty and staff as frequently as students do at many other institutions, or as frequently as they used to here, within one common house or one student union.

"We are not saying that architecture solves all problems," Clemmer says. "But we recognize that in order for other things to happen on campus, we have to have more of a sense of affiliation and a sense of community here. The Campus Center is really a precondition. It is more than just a Campus Center; it is part of a plan for campus that has to do with things that will happen elsewhere on campus.

'We have to have more of a sense of community here. The Campus Center is really a precondition.'

- Joel Clemmer
But the whole sequence starts with the Campus Center.

"It's not going to make community, but it's going to help us," says biology Professor Lin Aanonsen, a member of the planning committee. "With the Campus Center, we are clearly trying to have a focal point on campus where we could all come together."

Why build a Campus Center from scratch? Why not just renovate the existing Student Union, which was completed in 1951?

"That was an inadequate solution for a number of reasons," Clemmer says. "One is the sheer square feet available. The planning committee thought some programmatic things needed to happen, such as moving dining south of Grand Avenue, and re-using the space in Kagin for some of the services that are scattered on campus. So we're bringing dining services to the new Campus Center and reconfiguring the manner in which contract dining happens. Once you decide that, the Campus Center must be quite large. It's impossible to cram dining into the old Student Union — it's not truly cost-effective."

Clemmer adds that the architects foresaw other problems, such as floor levels.

**DID SOMEONE SAY FOOD?**

**IT'S ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF CAMPUS CENTER**

**H**ow do you draw students, faculty and staff to one central place on a college campus?

Through their stomachs, of course.

Food service is the most important single ingredient in the success of any campus center, according to those involved in planning the one at Macalester.

"What we are trying to do is make the Campus Center a place that everyone would want to come to — students, faculty, staff — no matter what discipline they're in. Food is always a big draw, so we are trying to pull that together, to make it an attractive place for many people to want to gather," says biology Professor Lin Aanonsen, a member of the Campus Center Planning Committee.

When members of the campus community were asked to name the key components of any campus center, they most often mentioned "food and meeting space, and they were seen together," says Joel Clemmer, chair of the planning committee.

The food service envisioned for the Campus Center will not be the traditional cafeteria-style common to Macalester and countless other campuses for generations. Instead, it will feature decentralized, kiosk-style dining that will reduce queuing, and food will remain available all the hours that the building is open. Students and others can choose to have a full breakfast in the morning, or just a croissant and coffee. Lunch choices may include a full Italian meal or lighter Japanese food or perhaps a sandwich to go from the deli. In the afternoon, the dining space may turn into a popcorn bar with soft drinks and snacks for students studying as a group or faculty having a departmental meeting. In the evening, the food area will take on a pub-like atmosphere with hot appetizers for snacking while listening to musicians and other performers.

The first floor will also have a private dining room for those who need a quiet place to meet or conduct business.

"The focus of the first floor of the Campus Center will be a social space — informal and formal — for the community, so good food is a big part of that," says Ann Bolger, director of residential life and another member of the planning committee. "The architects have designed the floor and we've designed the food program to allow faculty, students and staff all to find foods that meet their needs in that space. The idea is to have enough variety of food products available so that everybody feels there isn't a need to go someplace else to eat. This will be a magnetic space to draw people in."
NEW RESIDENCE HALL WILL REPLACE DAYTON

Construction of the new Campus Center cannot begin until a new residence hall is built to replace the 113 beds that will be lost through the razing of Dayton Residence Hall, adjacent to the existing Student Union.

The new residence hall will be built near the Alumni House on Cambridge Avenue, on the Macalester campus across from Ramsey Junior High. It will feature:

• housing for 113 junior and senior students;
• creative combinations of academic and social spaces to encourage and support faculty-student interaction;
• suite-like arrangements for 4–6 students combining private sleeping spaces and shared living rooms and bathrooms. Clusters of 24–28 students would share a common kitchen/family room space and laundry facilities.

The three-story residence hall will provide a strong academic focus for these upper-level students.

The design team members planning the residence hall include Ellen Guyer, dean of academic programs, Professors Norm Rosenberg, Jaine Strauss and Robert Warde, first-year student Emily Foss (Lincroft, N.J.) and Ann Bolger, director of residential life. Through feedback and input from students, staff and faculty, the team shaped both a building and a core program.

"We are very excited about the inclusion of highly functional seminar-style spaces in the building," the design team wrote to the campus community in November. "These lounges will be located on the top floor of the hall, building into 'attic'-like spaces. The spaces will be scheduled for senior seminars, selected first-year courses and faculty-student gatherings. When not formally scheduled, these spaces will provide ideal study areas for students in the hall."

The first floor will contain a "wellness" facility, including a range of exercise equipment. Encouraging students to be healthy is important, says Bolger. "It's in college that students develop patterns and behaviors that serve them well in their adult lives and in the workplace," she says.

The basement level will contain rooms designed for music practice, storage and mechanical equipment.

Construction of the Campus Center will also mean the razing of Dayton Hall, built in 1957 (see story at left).

The Campus Center will help form a triangle on campus running from Kagin across Grand Avenue to the Campus Center to Weyerhaeuser Hall, encompassing the most heavily trafficked part of campus.

Services and functions will be distributed within this central triangle. Plans call for this configuration:

• Kagin: Its proximity to the residence halls makes it a good location for most offices which are integral to student services and student development. For example, Kagin will house the Career Development Center, Internship Program, Learning Center and Community Service Office. "The usefulness of all those services to students would be vastly increased if these people could work together in one location," Clemmer says. The second floor of Kagin — the current central dining space — will become an attractive site for meetings of up to 500 people, with a support kitchen to serve banquets.

• Weyerhaeuser Hall: It will continue to house the administration but also become a focus of internationalism on campus, possibly housing international studies and programs, and the World Press Institute.

• Campus Center: The central place for campus meetings, interaction and
communication, it will support daily needs of the community, such as dining and mail service. Its auditorium and meeting spaces will serve alumni as well as students, faculty and staff. The planning committee strongly recommended that the design of the three-level Campus Center "should emphasize openness, lightness and flexibility. Program elements of the project are very likely to change in the near future so the building must easily accommodate change."

The Campus Center, new residence hall and renovation of Kagin are being designed by the Boston firm of Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbott, which also designed the DeWitt Wallace Library.

"For a college like ours, this [Campus Center] is desperately needed," said anthropology Professor David McCurdy, another member of the planning committee. "It looks like a really nice design. We have tried to meet the design requirements of facilitating community on campus, facilitating education on campus as well as eating and recreation. And we're using three buildings pretty creatively, I think, to try to do that. I'm all for it."

McCurdy describes the existing Student Union as "a pretty dysfunctional building." Although some alumni are fond of its grand ballroom, "I've been here 30 years now and it's been very hard to get people to use that space. It just hasn't worked. There are lots of things students would like [in the new Campus Center]. The idea of the new center is that, for example, if I wanted to give an open lecture on India, the center is the place where I would go to, or the attached facility, [the renovated] Kagin Commons. There will be space in both of them to do that. In other words, we can get some academic features into the building that way; guest lecturers from off campus would be there."

McCurdy acknowledges that Macalester is spending a lot of money on buildings.

"We don't have to apologize for this," McCurdy says. "We have this tremendous gap and need in our physical plant. You could also point out that while a lot of money has been going into buildings, a lot of them are academic buildings, and they were just woefully inadequate for the next century."

Alyson Schiller '96 (Riverton, Wyo.), a member of the planning committee since her first year at Macalester, has attended dozens of meetings about the Campus Center in the last four years. "The many discussions held with students, faculty, staff and administrators have already contributed to the project's success," she says. "People are now talking, thinking about and visualizing a new Macalester community."

Schiller, who is majoring in political science and environmental studies, believes that architecture, if planned wisely, can have a significant impact on a college campus. "Having a space where different groups on the campus can interact in a comfortable way, and be educated while they are interacting, is really important to the college's mission," she says. "Internationalism, community service and multiculturalism are all imbedded [in the Campus Center and overall campus plan]. Just providing the space, the functional areas where these different populations can interact and come together for common goals, that's important at Macalester."

This architectural perspective shows how the new residence hall would look if you were standing in front of Bigelow Residence Hall, looking northwest across Macalester Street. Alumni House is on the right.

Timeline of Campus Construction

Here is the sequence of events that must happen in order for the Campus Center to be built. All dates are highly tentative:

- First, before anything can be built, $8 million must be raised or pledged from donors toward the total cost of the new Campus Center and Kagin Commons renovation ($18.5 million) and new residence hall ($5 million);
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- then the current Student Union (which opened in 1951) and Dayton Hall (opened in 1957) will be torn down to make room for the site of the Campus Center;
- Campus Center construction: September 1997-March 1999;
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FEBRUARY 1996

Alyson Schiller '96
Macalester Roundtable scholars debate the impact of geographic and cultural boundaries on the world’s literature

What if Salman Rushdie had written *The Satanic Verses* only for Muslim readers, without a London or New York audience in mind? Is there a new "global culture"? If so, what role should the works of the "Western canon" play? Did the fall of the Berlin Wall, universally welcomed at the time, create a thousand small walls between peoples and between writers and their readers?

Participants raised, discussed and offered answers to questions like these at the second Macalester International Roundtable. The annual fall event has become a major intellectual occasion on campus, adding an important new dimension to the college’s commitment to internationalism.

The 1995 Macalester International Roundtable, held Oct. 12–14 in Weyerhaeuser Chapel, centered on the theme of "Literature, the Creative Imagination and Globalization."

Following a keynote address by the seminal thinker and writer Edward Said, four other seasoned scholars delivered papers in their areas of expertise. Each scholar’s presentation elicited formal responses by a Macalester student, a 1995 World Press Institute Fellow and a Macalester faculty member. Then the discussion was opened to the audience, which included hundreds of students, faculty and staff over three days.

We present a small sample of the Roundtable on the following pages.
THE POLITICS OF WORLD LITERATURE: CONSIDER THE CASE OF ARABIC

Edward Said, a renowned scholar who has written such influential books as Orientalism, was the keynote speaker at the second Macalester International Roundtable. Here is a brief excerpt from his address, entitled "The Limits of the Artistic Imagination, and the Secular Intellectual":

I do not think it is an exaggeration to speak of the globalization of literature. Of course Colombians and Mexicans are Gabriel García Márquez’s first readers, and of course in one sense he is still a vital local presence in Latin America, read on mountain buses by ordinary people in Peru for example, but the power of his presence is an international one, consolidated by the Nobel Prize, backed by corporations like Random House, institutions that are not bound by national barriers. This is true of a relatively small number of writers — Milan Kundera, Salman Rushdie, Kazuo Ishiguro, Michael Ondaatje, Seamus Heaney, Ben Jallouk, Vikram Seth, Derek Walcott, Wole Soyinka among several others — all of whom have become staples of any international reading list of crucial contemporary artistic sensibilities.

I intend no disparagement at all of these quite first-rate artists, all of whom I respect and care for very deeply. But what I am trying to point to is a dialectic in which writer and international market interact to produce recognizable, admired, much circulated figures who belong, so to speak, to world literature. We still know very little about what effect this interaction has on the writer as he or she writes, but it is arguably true that knowing that one’s audience is no longer only someone in Bogotá or in Rabat infects even sentences, and certainly structures, in an unmistakable way. As a great supporter of Salman Rushdie’s gifts and accomplishments, I think it is still possible to say that he has not had a London or New York audience in mind when he wrote The Satanic Verses, and had he only had a community of Indian Muslims to think about, the novel would have been a very different book, and its clamorous reception considerably less vociferous.

Even if we do not wish to make the leap from local to international so abruptly, there is still the realization many authors — not just novelists — face as their work develops new audiences through immediate translation and immediate global circulation: Consider the case of Iranian clerics reading a novel in English published in London and New York. For reasons that are too tedious and perhaps well-known for me to go into here, I have had to deal with this prismatic reality on a smaller scale in my work in the years since Orientalism was published in 1978. What I had intended as a critique of the role of power in forming European and American knowledge has been read in the Islamic world both understandably and quite mistakenly as a defense of Islam, the East, and oppressed people. Subsequently I have had to think carefully about what I say as it might be construed, say, in Istanbul or Cairo or Teheran, and this obviously bears, albeit imperceptibly, on what I say and how I say it. This is especially true in times of intolerance and unnaturally enflamed religious and ideological passions.

For writers whose work has now gathered the kind of international prestige that can turn into films, innumerable articles, television interviews and celebrity status, its local, immediate and existential provenance can seem like a very irrelevant, if not entirely forgotten matter.

What we read here in the U.S. is of course very different from what people in Jakarta, Lagos, or Kingston, Jamaica, read. It is not only that the powerful absorptive capacities of the media take in a great deal more material, but that what we think about a writer or artistic sensibility has much more weight (perhaps of the wrong kind) than what that author’s original, local audience thinks. In much of the non-European world there can be an ugly tension between internationally celebrated writers and those who have not made it in the Eurocentric sphere that determines such things as lucrative book contracts, serialization, book clubs, film and TV adaptations. While most of us assume that such tension essentially derives from resentment on the part of lesser writers who have not “made it,” they do in fact often have a point: for who is to say, to take the example of Naguib Mahfouz, that he is a better witness to Egypt, or a finer stylist, than, say, Yusuf Idriss, a formidable gifted fiction and drama writer who until Mahfouz was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1988 was at least as well-known and as highly regarded in Egypt and the Arab-speaking world as Mahfouz?

The politics of international cultural exchange are in fact nowhere better illustrated than in the case of Arabic. In 1990 I wrote an article for The Nation just as the Gulf crisis had exploded in which Edward Said, above, of Columbia University gave the keynote address to open the Roundtable. Top of page: writer Andrei Codrescu, left, WPI Fellow Josef Tufek and Macalester Professor Rachel May during one of the four panel discussions. Below left: Audience members react to a speaker.
I lamented the appalling discrepancy between knowledge of Latin American, African and Caribbean literature in the West, and its knowledge of Arabic literature. What made the matter so irritating, I said, was that it wasn't a matter of translation only, but rather of attention in the press and among publishers and readers. For the first time in dozens of years many Arabic writers from Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, were getting their work translated into English and, even more systematically, into French. Yet you couldn't know this since the books were never reviewed in the Times, the weekly magazines, nor even the quarterlies. It was as if — for whatever reason — Arabic literature connoted trouble, and that it therefore seemed to have earned silence and obliviousness as its true fate so far as American readers were concerned. Paradoxically, when one writer like Mahfouz "made it big" in a big way, that to the picture: he came to represent "The Arab Writer," even though in many ways the stories of, for instance, Zakaria Tamer, a totally untranslated Syrian short story writer, may in effect be more telling, more significant, more representative of the Arab world's present situation than Mahfouz's fictions.

Scholar Mary-Kay Gamel

1996 Roundtable: Ethnicity and Identity

The theme of the third annual Macalester International Roundtable will be "The Divided Self: Ethnicity, Identity and Globalization.

It will be held Oct. 3-5, 1996, on campus. Participants will contemplate such questions as: What is the self and what is (ethnic) identity? What is to become of national identity and nationalism in a time of both ascending ethnicity and the onset of globalization? What are the key elements of transnationalism, and how is one to respond to extra-national obligations? In what ways can the divided and overstrained self constructively engage the making of a "horizon of meaning" fitting to moral communities for a future that could work?

The keynote speaker will be Benedict Anderson of the Department of Government, Cornell University. The four presenters will be Seyla Benhabib, Center for European Studies, Harvard University; Ashis Nandy, director of the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, India; Jean Comaroff, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago; and Emanuel Sivan, Department of History, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

What should we read?
The question is hardly new

Mary-Kay Gamel, an associate professor of classics, comparative literature and theater arts at the University of California at Santa Cruz, is the author of Comparative Literature and the Classics: A Study Guide, Staging Euripides and many scholarly articles. Her remarks at the Roundtable focused on the current status and future of the Western "canon" in a changing world. As one example, she discussed literary critic Harold Bloom's recent book, The Western

Canon: The Books and School of the Ages. Here is an excerpt from Gamel's paper:

Far from being universal, unchanging, tranquil, settled, the question of what should be read and taught has frequently been contested. When the study of Greek was first introduced at Oxford in 1516, students who called themselves "Trojans" denounced it, seeing correctly that this new study threatened to destroy medieval scholasticism. Later, anxieties similar to Harold Bloom's were expressed during the long transition in Europe when the vernacular canons of emerging nation states took the place of Greek and Latin authors . . . .

My discussion of [writers] Derek Walcott, Wole Soyinka, Aimé Césaire and Kamau Brathwaite is meant to suggest what kinds of roles "canonical" materials can play in the new global culture, provided they are treated as tools to be used rather than icons to be worshiped. If older texts have no use they should be ignored, and they will be. The replacement of older materials by newer ones is a standard cultural process; Bloom's lists get progressively longer as they approach the present. One use of older texts is as "background" or "reading aids" to newer ones; this is how the fragments of Sappho got preserved. Readers who want to understand the wonderful "graphic novels" The Waste Land or Tank Girl: the Odyssey will have to consult Eliot, Homer and Joyce. Older materials also offer later audiences the chance to see texts and contexts in a more complete relation than may be possible with contemporary materials. And the most important tool may be not the contents or form of older texts but the very history of the different readings they have received, the different uses to which they have been put — not only admiration and emulation, but misunderstanding, distortion, trivialization, satire, travesty, rejection.

Just as globalization urges the imagination to go beyond geographical boundaries, the survey of past literature and art urges it beyond temporal ones. The study of the past is a cross-cultural study. But if older texts are discarded, they won't be available for
future uses which we cannot now envision. The history of the transmission of pagan texts shows clearly how others decided what was worthy of preservation, and how their decisions have narrowed our understanding. Better models are the ecological preservation of endangered species, or contemporary archaeology, which preserves sites for future, more sophisticated investigation by techniques not yet invented.

**Stuck in the West:**

**Making the canon irrelevant**

**Emily Eagen '97** (Cincinnati), who is majoring in English, responded to Gamel. Here is an excerpt from Eagen's paper:

Professor Gamel emphasizes the need to preserve and reinterpret older texts, making an argument that, perhaps inadvertently, seems to compromise her goal of abandoning the canon. Much of her enthusiasm for change seems to rest on the faith that the old ways will be preserved. It is as though Professor Gamel holds her world vision up to Bloom as a consolation, saying, “Don’t worry — the new map will actually be familiar — the Western canon will live on strongly.” Although her goal is to dismantle the “Western canon,” I find that in three ways — metaphors of expansion, choice of texts and modes of analysis — Professor Gamel works towards a contrary goal.

Images of expansion (underlying the excitement) prevail in Professor Gamel’s paper. She calls for giant celebrations, multiple readings of texts, a global “carnival” that links present, past and future. Literature will benefit from moving beyond boundaries, she says. This is imagery that, in its size and tempo, alludes to that of territorial exploration, forging the frontiers of unknown lands. To this end, the body of Western texts is ever adaptable, capable of being expanded, reinterpreted and completely transferable to a larger, worldwide culture. Professor Gamel shows how ancient texts fit modern concerns. Petronius speaks on class oppression, Caliban on colonization. She worries about the “preservation” of these texts, as though they may not survive on uncharted lands. To ease the fear of loss, Professor Gamel suggests that we can “use” the literary works we find, as resources found on new land. The new terrain is valuable.

How? Either as archaeological “sites for future... investigation,”

Emily Eagen '97

where older texts are preserved, or consumer atmospheres like the carnival or zoo. I am not suggesting that Professor Gamel intends these images to imply colonization. However, I am left uneasy by the opportunistic connotations that these images imply.

Another way in which Western centrality is supported is by Professor Gamel’s choice of texts. Professor Gamel’s overriding enthusiasm is for literature that is already incorporated into the mainstream of the “Western canon.” No examples are given of literature that does not rely on Western texts; in fact, many of her examples come from Harold Bloom’s canonical list. Professor Gamel states that “what matters is not particular texts but methods of reading.” But how can we begin to understand what “global cultures” mean if we only look at Western works? To use an analogy, how well can you understand a foreign country if you stay in an American hotel? This is not to dismiss the texts she chooses. But I think Professor Gamel’s comments would be strengthened by a look at non-Western works that render the canon not only peripheral, but irrelevant...

I find Professor Gamel’s new map to fall short of being transformative. Unless we are truly capable of ceding the center to the periphery, to use Professor Gamel’s metaphor, we will maintain a vision of global literary consumption that functions much like the canon.

**Tensions of nationhood:**

**Asia and the Australians**

**Fiona Carruthers**, a 1995 WPI Fellow, is a reporter for *The Australian* in Sydney, Australia. An excerpt from her reply to Gamel:

The Labor Government led by Prime Minister Paul Keating is committed to two main goals: becoming a republic by the year 2000 and integrating Australia’s economy with that of its Asian Pacific neighbors. This has led to confusion and cultural tension at home. On the one hand, Australians are busy working towards becoming a republic — conducting national opinion polls on the subject, holding competitions to redesign the flag and even discussing new national anthems. Side-by-side with this sits a general acceptance in schools and universities that reading lists must be diversified to include African, Asian, East European and other texts less widely distributed in the past. Australia, like the U.S., has a large multicultural population. It also has an active aboriginal population, which has put pressure on educators for decades to achieve more diversified curriculums that pay homage to aboriginal culture and literature.

As the country redefines its nationhood, Australia is also attempting to integrate its economy with its Asian Pacific neighbors. Moves to promote two-way cultural traffic between Australia and...
and its Asian neighbors have been fairly successful but have in many ways increased tension and suspicion between the two countries. The Australian government is constantly forced to define economic integration, the basic question being how do we become part of Asia without becoming Asian? This mentality illustrates how difficult it is for cultures to embrace for fear of being swallowed up.

Charges of 'elitism' sound odd coming from academic elites

JEREMIAH REEDY, professor of classics at Macalaster, has translated and edited many Greek and Latin works. He has also written articles on the history and philosophy of liberal arts education. Here is an excerpt from his reply to Gamel:

Professor Gamel seems to disagree with the preoccupation with the threat of invasion from outer space as a threat of invasion from outer space for, as Montaigne said, "Necessity drives people together and only necessity." Professor Gamel seems to disagree with the metaphors that exist at the heart of what is the transformational, which also moves within a community and has implications for resistance and other worlds; secondly the creation of an alternative physical, political space, outside of the terms of the dominant society; thirdly the deliberate journey negating outside of the boundaries of restriction and oppression. These patterns for me are related to the spirit of creative and imaginative space as well; I propose to show they sometimes become the creative impetus of the literary imagination.

I am not saying that all black literature is related to the spirit of creative and imaginative space; there are always contradictions between the two. But clearly there is a major trajectory of Afro-diasporic literature and culture which purports to transform the transitional into a site of memory and/or through having a vision of alternative worlds, transformed economies and international studies, to articulate our dreams and aspirations.

I am thinking that what the human race really needs is something like a mythical dragon, spawned a thousand little walls, and that the people of those regions could now respond to Carole Boyce Davies. An excerpt:

"When the Berlin Wall finally came down, the meaning of its collapse was more than ambiguous. Of course, for a little less than 10 minutes there was no ambiguity. In the euphoria of the actual physical event, it was generally believed that freedom had come to the so-called satellite empire and that the people of those regions could now aspire to Western standards of prosperity which would be brought about by the so-called free market, with attendant democracy. This is not what happened. The Berlin Wall, like a mythical dragon, spawned a thousand little walls that are growing as we speak. First of all, the released inmates of the ex-Soviet zone were startled at the very instruments of their oppression."

Other walls are weaker now

JOSEF TUCEK, a 1995 World Press Institute Fellow at the University of Kansas, is a poet and a regular commentator on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered." Codrescu delivered a paper on "The Fall of the (Romanian) Wall in Three Acts & a Prologue." An excerpt:

"Let's take freedom of speech, another cherished notion of pre-1989, which tilted the intellectuals of the world. Today, in Romania, anyone is free to say anything. And anyone does. Anyone has been speaking — torrents of speech, rivers of language. The voice has been unleashed in a din that makes rock 'n roll sound like chamber music. Pornography, astrology, fantastic prophecies, scandal gossip, all the freedom of speech that has so effectively narcotized us here in the West, have flooded the hitherto silent zones. The fine writers who have been the very ones to call for freedom of speech are now lamenting the fact that no one reads them any longer. Many of them have become shockingly aware of the irony of their positions: they have been the very instruments of their own obfuscation. Their power, which had been extraordinary in the days of censorship, has borne a variety of philosophical frills, some of which has been distinctly poisonous."
cannot evaluate this fact from a pessimistic point of view.

What I really would like to underline as the most important fact is that the Berlin Wall which blocked in many ways human thinking, including thinking and free expression of authors, which blocked contacts among people and literatures, this wall does not exist any more. And other walls are smaller and weaker in comparison with it. I strongly believe that it is a very optimistic fact. For the society as well as for art.

Behind Soviet walls, reading was as important as breathing.

RACHEL MAY, assistant professor of Russian at Macalester, is the author of The Translator in the Text: On Reading Russian Literature in English and co-translator of Little Jinx by Abram Tertz. Here is an excerpt from her response to Andrei Codrescu:

Like many Western scholars who study the region formerly dominated by Soviet power, I was partly attracted to it by the lively intellectual life that went on behind all the walls and closed doors. Urban intellectual culture in Soviet Russia, for example, was marked by close-knit circles of friends who would sit up to all hours discussing literature, the arts, good and evil, beauty and death. For them, reading was as important as breathing, and there was a heady sense of the vital role literature played in their lives, a sense rarely encountered in the United States. As the Soviet system collapsed, it was painful to watch those circles break apart, but break apart they did, as their members became busier, more harried with practical responsibilities, more involved in their work and their own interests. I was startled to feel my own nostalgia for those walls that had created such tight communities, such a sense of what was really important. That is, until one friend in Moscow confided in me that, though he missed the late-night conversations, in retrospect it all seemed artificial.

As the people of his close circle went their own ways, one became a religious fanatic, one a ruthless entrepreneur, one a rabid nationalist. He realized that he had never really known them, and if he had, he would not have liked them. Perhaps they had not known themselves. In other words, the walls created close communities and an intensity of intellectual activity, but they drastically circumscribed that activity, limiting the truths anyone could share, even with themselves.

To sum up, then, the links between truth and culture may have been more evident in the earlier period, but they were rather tenuous nevertheless.
Globalization from above will further exaggerate these inequalities, expanding the domination, wealth and power of the wealthy and powerful.

In contrast, Falk's second type of globalization, known as "globalization from below," "consists of an array of transnational social forces animated by environmental concerns, human rights, hostility to patriarchy and a vision of human community based on the unity of diverse cultures seeking an end to poverty, oppression, humiliation and collective violence." "Globalization from below" aims to "restore to communities the power to nurture their environments, to enhance the access of ordinary people to the resources they need, to democratize local, national and transnational political institutions, and to impose pacification on conflicting power centers."

I, obviously, prefer globalization from below. In reality, the elitist and unequal forces of globalization from above are already in motion in our world today, but Richard Falk and others have provided alternative visions and possibilities. As we quickly approach a new century, a new millennium, we see that the world is transforming around us. With the end of the Cold War, the fall of Communism, an increasing number of ethnic conflicts and shared environmental problems, the human community must now make choices about the future, and about whether "globalization from below" or "from above" will prevail. Will people come together because of a shared purchasing power or because of the universality of beliefs and values?

Dr. Wong believes that at this historical crossroads, "the brave new world is a globe, which is as big as the planet Earth and as small as a village." I am not willing to share such a utopian and optimistic view. I am not satisfied, however, with the present hierarchical global structure, based primarily on economics. I would merely like to suggest that Dr. Falk's vision of globalization from below provides an appealing alternative to currently existing international inequalities.

**Going beyond the East-West axis**


Here is an excerpt from his reply to Wong:

When we talk about the globalization of literature and literary imagination, the central question we need to ask is not how many foreign languages our writers and poets can speak, how many names of foreign literary luminaries our critics or playwrights could summon in a scholarly paper. Instead, we need to ask what broad commonalities of humanistic concern — literary, aesthetic, social, political and intellectual — have drawn international novelists, poets and dramatists together in a shared attempt to represent the human condition, to re-imagine and interpret experience.

Second, globalization of the creative imagination as it relates to Chinese literature cannot, and indeed must not, be premised on a narrowly defined East-West axis alone. China, Western Europe and the United States together do not constitute the world. As I recall the words of Oe Kenzaburo and Oda Makoto about the unmistakable sense of solidarity they have established with writers and poets from other parts of Asia, I wonder how well-informed the contemporary Chinese novelists or playwrights are with the works of their Latin American or other Asian counterparts or with the problematics in which they engage. I also wonder whether any significant number of Chinese writers has genuinely forged the kind of profound, intimate sense of solidarity with their colleagues in the Philippines, in Indonesia, in Brazil, in Iran, in Romania, or in Egypt, as they might have achieved with literary artists in Paris and London.

In a lead article recently published in the New York Times Book Review, Adam Smith writes about the need for Americans to acquire greater cultural literacy about Japan and proclaims that "We can't go on humming Puccini." Lamenting that "American ignorance of Asia remains a greater problem than ever," another writer for the New York Times suggests that most Americans think about Indonesia, a country with 190 million people, for only approximately 15 seconds a year. I don't know how many seconds most Chinese think about Indonesia a year, but I doubt if it can be much longer. Globalization has just begun, and there is still a very long way to go.
Reunion and Commencement:
Celebrate at Macalester in an Unforgettable Weekend

Bring your family and join your classmates for a history-making holiday weekend at Macalester. On Memorial Day Weekend, Macalester combines Commencement and Alumni Reunion into a single college-wide celebration, with the theme "Unforgettable."

Reunion: Thursday, May 23 – Sunday, May 26

You'll find the traditional Reunion activities — class parties, alumni college programs, campus tours, children's programs and more. You'll also enjoy special new activities for alumni and the graduating class of '96, such as concerts, a gala all-campus celebration and a Sunday gospel brunch.

Above: The Class of '85 enjoys its 10th reunion last year. Left: Alumni re-create Drama Choros with a humorous version of Hamlet at the Class of '69's 25th reunion dinner. Right: Known as the Scotsmen when they formed as a musical group in their freshman year, these friends from the Class of '55 entertained classmates at their 40th reunion.
Commencement

Senior Week concludes with Commencement at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 25, on the lawn in front of Old Main, and special festivities welcoming the college's newest alumni into the fold.

Reunion Classes

Alumni whose classes end in "1" or "6" will receive a reunion brochure in the mail by March 15. Because nearly 1,000 alumni are expected to attend Reunion/Commencement Weekend, it is very important that you send in your reservation by May 1.

Top and bottom: Flags of graduating students' nations and the Macalester Pipe Band add to the pomp of Commencement each year. Above: A future member of the Class of 2015 attended the Reunion '95 all-class picnic. Left: Gary Hines '74, left, leader of the musical group Sounds of Blackness, speaks with Gretchen Rohr '98 and Richard Ammons, Macalester's vice president for development, at a reception for alumni of color during last year's Reunion.

Questions?

For more information, please call the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295.

Unforgettable!
Calendar of events

Here are some of the events scheduled for alumni, parents, family and friends. More events are being added all the time. For a copy of Macalester's Spring Arts & Events Calendar, which was mailed to all Twin Cities area alumni, or for more information on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295, except where noted. You may also call the campus events line, (612) 696-6900.

Maclester Galleries, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, "King Remembered," exhibition of photographs of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by Flip Schulke '54, opens March 1. Gallery hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1-5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday (696-6433)

Feb. 8: Writer Ishmael Reed, lecture, 7 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6203)

Feb. 10: Celebration of gospel music in honor of Black History Month, featuring Macalester's gospel choir "Voices of Tamani' and other choirs, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Feb. 10: Twin Cities Alumni Event, a "speakeasy" evening with music of the '20s and '30s and dancing, 8-11:30 p.m., at the Commodore in St. Paul (696-6295)

Feb. 18-25: Student Phonathon

Feb. 21: Boston/Cambridge Alumni Happy Hour, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Cactus Club Restaurant & Bar, 939 Boylston St., Boston (contacts: Carrie Norbin '94 at 617-523-0326 or Caroline Cuningham '92 at 617-227-0022)

Feb. 24: Boston alumni event with Professor Robert Warde discussing an art history topic at Museum of Fine Arts (call Carlynn White Trout '82 at 617-665-0192 for more information)

Feb. 24: Harmonia Mundi, premiere of "Since Singing is Being" by Tina Davidson, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Feb. 25-27: M Club Phonathon

On the line for Macalester

Three alumnae from the Class of '53 page through the 1953 Mac yearbook before calling their classmates on behalf of the Annual Fund. Janet Strane Engeswick, left, of Falcon Heights, Mary Shaffer MacLaughlin of Minneapolis and Diane Coughenour Smith of Minnetonka were among those who took part in November's Phonathon. Alumni, faculty, staff and students — including Bola Gibson '98, left, of Harare, Zimbabwe — raised more than $265,000 with 4,100 pledges from alumni and parents during the annual event.

Scottish Country Fair

The 24th annual Scottish Country Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 4, at Macalester's Shaw Field. Call 696-6239 for more information.
A group of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender alumni have established their own organization within the Macalester Alumni Association.

The group is temporarily being called MACGALBA, which stands for Macalester College Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni. A contest for a permanent name will be held early this year.

The Alumni Association's Board of Directors voted at its Dec. 3 meeting on campus to approve MACGALBA as an official group. MACGALBA envisions itself as a group within the Alumni Association, in much the same way as a group of alumni who meet regularly in Boston or Seattle.

In response to several letters that appeared in Macalester Today during the past year, several alumni met on campus during the Alumni Leadership Conference in September to begin work on establishing the group. Similar groups already exist at such colleges as Carleton, Oberlin and Dartmouth.

The first meeting of MACGALBA was held Oct. 19, with more than 25 people in attendance. Discussion centered around the goals for the group, including building an enduring relationship between Macalester and its gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) alumni, faculty and staff; enhancing educational opportunities and support for GLBT students; increasing the visibility of Macalester's GLBT alumni, faculty and staff; and recognizing their achievements. A steering committee was selected to oversee the activities of the group during its first year. At that meeting, MACGALBA also discussed ways in which its goals could be achieved. Possible activities include establishing an endowed scholarship for GLBT students; sponsoring reunions and other meetings of GLBT alumni; participating in the existing student mentorship program; providing a network for GLBT alumni; sponsoring events with the GLBT student group on campus; contributing GLBT materials to the college library; providing support for the inclusion of relevant courses in the curriculum; and providing recognition for the accomplishments of GLBT alumni, faculty and staff.

Events for which planning is already under way include at least two additional social events on campus this winter and spring, one of which will be a joint event with the student GLBT group. MACGALBA also will sponsor a social hour for members and friends on Saturday, May 25, during Alumni Reunion. Recognizing that not all members will be able to come to Minnesota for meetings, the steering committee hopes to be able to establish local chapters of MACGALBA in various cities around the country as part of its plans for an alumni network.

Initial mailings about MACGALBA events have gone to alumni, faculty and staff who were identified, by those who attended one of the first two meetings, as possibly being interested in MACGALBA. Membership in MACGALBA is open to any Macalester alumnus or alumna as well as any member of the college faculty or staff who supports the purposes of the group. To be added to the mailing list, send your name and address to: MACGALBA, Campus P.O. Box 2392, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899.

To preserve confidentiality, which is a concern of some members, the MACGALBA mailing list is being maintained separate from the college's records, and information in it is available only to members of MACGALBA.

Members of the steering committee are: Craig L. Anderson '75, Adonica Cross of Macalester's Career Development Center, Macalester Professor J. Michele Edwards, David Enyeart '90, John Jensen '96, Paula Lackie '84, Gregg Larson '69, David Mesbeck '74, Misha Oneby '89, Nancy Seger '90, John Skogmo '69, Edward Swanson '64 and Douglas Watson '65.

March 1-3, 8-10: Dramatic Arts, "Line" by Israel Horovitz, directed by William Sun (696-6359)
March 8: International Center Dinner, sponsored by International Student Organization and International Center, 6 p.m., Cochran Lounge (696-6310)
March 19: Boston/Cambridge Alumni Happy Hour, 6 to 8:30 p.m., The Field, 20 Prospect St., Cambridge (see Feb. 21 listing)
March 26: Tom Andrews, poetry reading, 7:30 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel
March 30: Great Scots Event of special interest to alumni 55 and older, with panel of faculty and alumni speaking on "How Grim Is the Reaper: Death and Dying," 8:30-11:30 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Board Room (696-6295)
April 13: Harmonia Mundi, premiere of a work by Macalester Lecturer Sowah Mensah, 8 p.m. (696-6382)
April 14: Macalester Sunday, 10:30 a.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church; and Macalester Trio Concert, 7:30 p.m., Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center
April 16: Anne Buttimer, distinguished guest speaker, "Landscape, Life and Sustainable Development," sponsored by Macalester Geography Department, 7:30 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6291)
April 18: special program for Latino Awareness Week, speaker to be announced, 7 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6297)
April 18-21, 25-26: Dramatic Arts, "The gods are not to blame," written and directed by Ola Rotimi (696-6359)
April 24: Mitau Lecture by Theodore Lowi, 8 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6332)
April 24: Boston/Cambridge Alumni Happy Hour, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Commonwealth Brewing Company, 138 Portland, Boston (see Feb. 21 listing)
April 27: Spring Sports Day at Macalester (696-6260 or 696-6295)
April 27-28: Macalester Festival Chorale, 8 p.m. April 27 on campus, and 7 p.m. April 28 at Minnesota History Center in St. Paul (696-6382)
May 3-4, 10-12: Macalester Dance Ensemble, 8 p.m., except 2 p.m. May 12 (696-6359)
May 4: Scottish Country Fair, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Shaw Field, rain or shine (696-6239)
May 13: All-Sports Banquet, Cochran Lounge (696-6260)
May 21: Boston/Cambridge Alumni Happy Hour, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Cambridge Brewing Company, 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge (see Feb. 21 listing)
May 21-26: Senior Week, Commencement (at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 25) and Reunion Weekend •
Alumni clubs

All over the United States and abroad, alumni regularly get together to discuss career paths, current events, community service work, the arts and a host of other topics. The 10 listed here are just a few of Macalester's alumni clubs, and others will be listed in subsequent issues of Mac Today. For information about alumni activities in your area, please call the contacts listed below or the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295.

Boston
Carlynn White Trout '82
(H) (617) 665-0192

Chicago
Molly C. McGinnis '87
(H) (312) 327-1851
(W) (312) 443-0327

Denver/Boulder
Caryn Davis Hanson '71
(H) (303) 752-0715
Patricia Gould Smith '79
(H) (303) 377-1479
(W) (303) 293-1519

Los Angeles
John Kessler '87
(H) (818) 577-4969
(W) (213) 481-0100

Kim Gehman-White '86
(H) (818) 798-1665
(W) (818) 953-3581

San Diego
Shirl J. Ahrens '62
(H) (619) 487-8966
(W) (414) 854-2011

San Francisco
Julie A. Strickler '75
(H) (415) 898-2146

Seattle
James L. Bennett '69
(H) (206) 784-9090
(W) (206) 641-2300

H. Regina Cullen '73
(H) (206) 522-0234

Twin Cities
Ruth Bixler Gregory '82
and Warren B. Gregory '81
(H) (612) 698-5337
(W) (612) 644-9116

Denver/Boulder
Caryn Davis Hanson '71
(H) (303) 752-0715
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(H) (303) 377-1479
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Don’t forget your Mac connection!

Macalester alumni clubs across the country are always looking for a reason to get together, preferably one with a strong Macalester connection.

Are you making any presentations, going on a book or talk show tour, or making any other plans that might lend themselves to an alumni event?

Please let the Alumni Office know. Call (612) 696-6295, or fax your plans to (612) 696-6192.

Alumni mentors

John Yankey '96, left, of Lagos, Nigeria, meets his mentor, Scott Burchill '85, manager of management information systems for the Ordway Music Theatre in St. Paul, at Macalester last fall. They were paired through the Twin Cities alumni mentorship program, which is organized by Macalester's Career Development Center. This academic year, 35 students have been matched with 35 Twin Cities alumni. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or have questions about the program, call Adonica Cross at the CDC: (612) 696-6384.

A love affair with writing

Susan Allen Toth, left, talks with an admirer as she autographs books. "An English Morning with Susan Allen Toth," a Twin Cities alumni event, drew about 300 people Nov. 11 to Cochran Lounge. The Macalester professor, author and inspired traveler read from her writings on England, including My Love Affair with England and England As You Like It. Members of the audience also enjoyed English tea and savories.
GIVING BACK

John Ring ’51: Classmates, and Macalester, count on him

John Ring on the line, calling his classmates on behalf of the Annual Fund. “Mac is a
better place and we provide greater opportunities because of John and the class
members he calls each year,” says Andrea Matchett, director of the Annual Fund.

by Jon Halvorsen

BEFORE JOHN RING enrolled at
Macalester, he had already lived a
lifetime. It was compressed into a
few days in December 1944, during the
Battle of the Bulge. A year and a half out
of high school, the young man from
Faribault, Minn., was thrown into combat
with the 106th Infantry Division, newly
arrived at the front.

The division lost 10,000 men — killed,
wounded and captured — in the German
army’s surprise attack.

“You grow up quick,” Ring, who was
seriously wounded, says of the experience
of war. “You don’t know what you can do
‘til you have to do it. And it gives you a
new perspective of yourself and situations.
So that when you come back home to col-
lege, you say, ‘I don’t want to do high
school with just a fatter book.’ ”

Ring doesn’t relish telling war stories.
He’d rather talk about the importance of
education. “You put your energy mostly
where your beliefs and interests are,” he
says. “I’m interested in education. I think
it’s the format for getting things done.”

Graduating from Macalester in 1951,
Ring spent 38 years teaching chemistry,
27 of them at Harding High School in
St. Paul. He retired in 1989. He remains a
consultant to the St. Paul public schools,
running the district’s Odyssey of the Mind,
a competitive, problem-solving program,
and advising the schools’ health and safety
department regarding chemical safety in
school situations. He’s also active in local
science education programs and serves as
president of the St. Paul Retired Teachers
Association.

He still gives time to Macalester, too.
He spent two years at St. Olaf before
transferring to Macalester, where he found
the faculty, and the way they taught,
“challenging and nurturing.” He singles
out David White in philosophy, Arnold
Holtz in education and Raymond Bradley
in education and the registrar’s office as
especially good teachers.

A consistent donor to the college and
co-chair of his 40th class reunion, Ring is
a longtime class agent. His classmates can
count on a phone call from Ring at least
once a year; he spends several nights at

‘I try to tell them, “Hey, look,
Mac was great for us, let’s make
this place a living legacy.”’

every Macalester Phonathon calling
donors on behalf of the Annual Fund.

“This is a pretty social tribe,” Ring says
of his classmates. “Can you imagine I can
make 40 or 50 calls and only get two or
three turn-downs? … It’s a business of shar-
ing; it’s a business of caring and developing
the youngsters of today. When [someone
says], ‘Well, Mac doesn’t need the money,’
I say, ‘Wait, wait — you’re not giving it to
Mac, you’re giving it to those kids who are
coming here. They need it, too.’ I try to
tell them, ‘Hey, look, Mac was great for us,
let’s make this place a living legacy.’

The whole Ring family attended
Macalester. Ring’s wife, Loretta Yourd
Ring ’63, was a registered nurse when she
enrolled at Macalester to earn a teaching
degree. She recently retired after 25 years
as an elementary teacher. Their daughter,
Sue Ring-Jarvi ’73, who lives in Anoka,
Minn., owns R-J Sportswear and coaches a
girls’ hockey team at Mounds View and
Irondale high schools. Their son, Steve
Ring ’70, who lives in Roseville, is in
charge of the computer systems for the
public health lab at the Minnesota
Department of Health.

John Ring also estimates that “a few
dozens” of the students he taught in high
school went on to Macalester. “After
you’ve taught, let’s see, 38 years, figure 150
kids a year, some of them are going to say,
‘Where did you go to college, Doc?’ I think
this college deserves the kind of attention
I’m giving it, because Macalester has kept
that kind of challenging and nurturing
environment going here.”

FEBRUARY 1996 29
Russians and reform; African Americans and God

Preparing the Great Reforms: 
The Life and Career of A.S. Norov 
(1795–1869) 
by Peter R. Weisensel (Minnesota 
Mediterranean and East European 
Monographs, Modern Greek Studies, 
University of Minnesota, 1995. 200 pages.)

Between the reign of Peter I (d. 1725) 
and the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, 
the era which presented 
the greatest opportunity 
for change in Russia was 
the 1860s, the era of 
the “Great Reforms.” 
This book by Peter 
Weisensel, a 
Macalester history 
professor, focuses on 
the career of Avraam 
Sergeeich Norov, 
the minister of 
education from 1850 to 1858, whose leadership 
paid the way for the momentous 
reforms of education in the 1860s.

Based on archival research in Russia, 
Weisensel’s book describes Norov’s 
formative experiences as the son of a wealthy 
landowner and as a young officer in 
the Russian army at the time of the Napoleonic 
Wars, his participation in the literary 
“battles” of the 1820s, Norov’s 
extension to Egypt and the Holy Land in 1834–35, 
as well as his (sometimes convivial) 
ris in the bureaucracy. In the final analysis, 
Weisensel shows that there were others 
like Norov, not “enlightened” but at least 
“transitional,” who performed roles much 
larger than his in the Ministries of War, 
Internal Affairs, and Finances. Weisensel’s 
book is the first on Norov in any language, 
and the first to bring to light the 
contribution of the “transitional bureaucrats” to 
the “Great Reform” era.

At a conference in Moscow last spring, 
Weisensel and Theofanis G. Stavrour of 
the University of Minnesota were cited 
for their 1985 book, Russian 
Travelers to the Christian East from the Twelfth to the 
Twentieth Century. The Greek Embassy in 
Moscow and the Russian State Library 
organized an exhibit, “Russian Travelers 
to the Greek World,” in Moscow. Dimitris 
Yalamas, cultural attache to the Greek 
Embassy in Moscow, said the book by 
Weisensel and Stavrour “proved indispensable 
in selecting material for the exhibit.”

All the Powerful Invisible Things: 
A Sportswoman’s Notebook 
by Gretchen Legler ’84 (Seal Press, 1995. 
208 pages, $20.95 cloth, $12.95 paperback)

In this memoir of self-discovery and 
chronicle of outdoor life, Gretchen Legler 
writes about the complexities of being a 
woman who fishes and hunts. Her 
ads also explore the more intimate 
terrain of family, love and sexuality.

A native of Salt Lake City, Utah, 
Legler moved to Minnesota in 1980 
to attend Macalester and began her 
relationship with the landscape of 
the Northwoods. She has worked as 
an agricultural journalist and feature 
writer for newspapers and magazines 
in Minnesota and North Dakota. 
She won a Pushcart Prize in 1992 for 
her essay “Border Waters.” She has a 
Ph.D. in English from the University 
of Minnesota and currently teaches 
creative writing and English at the 
University of Anchorage in Alaska, 
where she is co-chair of the women’s 
studies program.

Political Style: 
The Artistry of Power 
by Robert Hariman ’73 (University 
cloth, $14.95 paperback)

Robert Hariman, professor of speech 
communication and Endowment 
Professor of the Humanities at Drake 
University, focuses on how matters of 
style influence politics. In critical 
studies of classic texts, he identifies four 
dominant political styles: the realist 
style, as found in Machiavelli’s The Prince; 
the courtly style, depicted in 
Kapuscinski’s The Emperor; the 
republican style, reflected in 
Cicero’s letters to Atticus; and the 
bureaucratic style, as captured in 
Kafka’s The Castle.

Hariman looks at effective 
political artistry in figures from antiquity to modern 
politicians such as Vaclav Havel, 
Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton. 
He discusses the crises to which each style 
is susceptible, as well as the social and 
consequences of each style’s success.

Women Changing Science: 
Voices from a Field in Transition 
by Mary Morse ’82 (Insight Books, 1995. 
291 pages, $27.95 cloth)

Mary Morse, a community activist and 
Minneapolis-based free-lance writer who 
contributes regularly to the Utne Reader, 
interviewed dozens of women employed in 
and entering scientific fields. She presents 
her findings in this book, giving women 
scientists an opportunity to discuss scientific 
culture, ethics and their careers.

“Readers may be amazed to find that I 
did not set out to unearth the most disgruntled 
women in science; in fact, even those who 
told completely unnerving stories about 
their experiences had very positive attitudes about much of their work — a feature 
that I hope shines through the glow in these pages,” Morse writes in the introduction. “Women do not want to abandon science; they want it to change. To the extent that women remain in the field, gaining stature and influence, they will, 
along with the men who share their views, 
move their agenda for science forward.”

Morse is married to James Marti ’80, 
a physicist.

Why, Lord? 
by Anthony B. Pinn (Continuum 

The question posed in the title of 
Anthony Pinn’s new book, which is subtitled “Suffering and Evil in Black Theology,” 
has troubled African Americans from 
the beginnings of America to the present day. 
Pinn, an assistant professor of religious 
Studies at Macalester, describes and analyzes the African American tradition of 
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the beginnings of America to the present day. 
Pinn, an assistant professor of religious 
Studies at Macalester, describes and analyzes the African American tradition of 
religious reconciliation 
with a God that has not prevented — and 
has perhaps even approved of — the 
terrible suffering of black people in America.

Pinn, who has a 
Ph.D. in religion from Harvard 
Divinity School, 
takes strong 
exception to the doctrine that suffering is in some way redemptive, regarding it as a roadblock to 
African American liberation. Turning to the tradition of black humanism, Pinn 
suggests that there are resources in literature, philosophy, music and folk tales from slavery times to contemporary rap that provide a different take on black suffering, one that can provide new motivation and real hope for African Americans.
WPI’s Lucian Filip: Making sense of America

by Jon Halvorsen

I’m from Transylvania — Dracula’s country,” Lucian Filip said with a smile as he stepped off a plane at the Minneapolis airport.

His introduction reflected Lucian’s innate good sense as well as his sense of humor. He knew that if there was one thing — and only one thing — that Americans might know about his native region, it was Transylvania’s association with a vampire.

Last June, back home in the city of Sibiu, Romania, the 31-year-old Lucian said goodbye to his wife, Ioana (pronounced “Joanna”), who is a physician, and their 7-year-old son, Alexander, to make his first trip to the West. He was one of 10 journalists chosen to be a 1995 Fellow of the World Press Institute, which is based at Macalester. He was recommended for this four-month, warts-and-all tour of America by Harry Morgan, who founded WPI in 1961. Morgan is now teaching journalism in Romania, where he and Lucian met and became close friends.

My wife, Donna, and I served as Lucian’s host family when he was in the Twin Cities. On his trips to rural Minnesota, he also had a host farm family, Curtis and Carol Wegner of Paynesville, Minn., and a host journalism family, Peter and Lynne Jacobson, who run the Paynesville Press weekly newspaper. Unfailingly gracious, thoughtful and warm, Lucian made friends of us all, going out of his way to put each of us at ease, as if he were the host.

He has spent most of his life in the shadow of Romania’s especially cruel dictatorship, and his country was the only Communist nation to overthrow its regime violently. Lucian had refused to join the Communist Party as a youth and was regarded as suspect by Romania’s secret police. “You do not know what it is like to live in a country where you can trust no one,” Lucian told us. He was struck by the friendliness of people he met on the street in his first few days in St. Paul. “What does it mean when people smile at you and say, ‘Hi?’” he asked. Even today in Romania, he explained, no one would ever speak to a stranger.

Although he helped launch two of his country’s new newspapers following the 1989 revolution and serves as an editor of the cultural review Transilvania, Lucian is not a typical journalist. The other WPI Fellows regarded him as “our philosopher,” as Susan Mfona of Cameroon described him. He is determined to help create a free press in Romania, and aware of the necessary separation between journalism and political activism. But he is also a founding member of the Party of Civic Alliance, teaches contemporary history at the University of Sibiu and speaks five languages. “He did not come here [to the U.S.] looking for breaking news or tomorrow’s lead story,” said John Hodowanic, executive director of WPI. “Lucian wants to know about the big picture, how it will affect his country and what it should mean to him as a thinking human being.”

Hodowanic recalled how another WPI Fellow listened to Lucian make his introductory comments at the group’s first “get-acquainted” session. “Lucian,” she asked, “do you think you will ever be president of Romania?”

But if ever there was a man wary of what political ambition can do, it’s Lucian Filip. “My hope for Romania is to have a little more morality in politics,” he said. For all the Dracula-like crimes of Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife, Lucian disapproved of their summary trial and execution. It was not, he thought, the way to begin building a free and open society.

He is a gentle man of passionate conviction and probing intellect. On his first free day in St. Paul last summer, Lucian walked from Macalester to downtown St. Paul and back, nearly wilting in the 95-degree heat. “I could never live here,” he declared that evening when I picked him up for dinner. “I thought, ‘I am going to die here. I am never going to see my family again.’” We assured him that it actually gets cold in Minnesota, but he seemed skeptical.

Lucian soon recovered his equanimity. Late that night, having been given the grand tour of the Twin Cities, he was pleased by the sight of people enjoying themselves at cafes, lakes and parks. His initial impression: “Life in America, it’s good. No one is stressed.” But as we soon discovered, Lucian wanted to get to the bottom of things. He was full of questions. “What do Americans want?” he asked. “Is it money? Education? Travel? Tell me, what is it Americans want?”

How to answer? In conversations with many Americans throughout his travels as a WPI Fellow, Lucian made his own discoveries. For our part, we learned it was very difficult to explain 275 million Americans and how they behave to a Romanian, though probably not as difficult as it is for an American to understand a nation with Romania’s history.

The day before his flight home last October, Lucian was anxious about making his plane connections and checking through his luggage, with the presents he had bought for his wife and son. But his impish sense of humor surfaced as he renewed an old invitation: “Jon and Donna, you have 24 hours to decide if you want to come with me to Romania.”

He promised to show us Dracula’s castle. Smiling, he added: “We have a hundred of them.”

Jon Halvorsen, a former newspaper reporter and editor, is the managing editor of Macalester Today.
Macalesisters

Double takes — make that triple takes — followed the three Epperson sisters around campus this past fall, especially when they played for the Macalester women's soccer team. Senior Nikki Epperson, left, was named to the All-America, All-Central Region and All-Conference teams; sophomore Brook, right, joined her on the All-Central Region and All-Conference teams; and first-year Tawni Epperson "gave us a real spark off the bench," says John Leaney, who was chosen MIAC Coach of the Year. See page 7.